

DRAFT LETTER

Topic: Tank Integrity Program Letter of Appreciation

Issue Manager Team & Authors: Bob Suyama, Steve Anderson, Jeff Burrig, Rob Davis, Phil Lemley, Liz Mattson, Marissa Merker, Vince Panesko

Originating Committee: Tank Waste Committee

Version #1, June 04, 2021

To: Karthik Subramanian (WRPS)
Dusty Stewart (DOE-ORP)

CC/BCC: xx

Subject: Tank Integrity Program Letter of Appreciation

Dear Mr. Subramanian and Mr. Stewart,

The Board recognizes and supports the continued excellent work being accomplished by the Tank Integrity Program Team managed by Karthik Subramanian, Washington River Protection Solutions, and Dusty Stewart, DOE-ORP.

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) has been extremely concerned about the ability of the Hanford Site's 177 aging waste storage tanks to safely confine the site's estimated 56 million gallons of hazardous mixed radioactive waste. The Board has repeatedly advised that DOE take actions to obtain additional waste tank storage capacity.

The Board's Tank Waste Committee (TWC) has closely followed the evolution of the Hanford Site's Tank Integrity Program. The TWC appreciates DOE's investment in the DST Integrity program and hope it continues to expand. Implementing new technologies, and obtaining and analyzing new data about the DSTs, is imperative to the future storage of waste, and the processing and operation of the Direct Feed Low Activity Waste program and Waste Treatment Plant for another half century. The efforts of the Tank Integrity Program are welcome contributions to support the site's waste tank recovery and processing goals.

It remains true that the quality of the Board's advice to the agencies relies on the quality, candidness, and depth of information we receive from subject matter experts during committee meetings and other public information sharing efforts. The tank integrity program affects multiple aspects of the tank waste treatment mission and the protection of the environment from potential future tank failures. We wish to express our appreciation for the level of information we have received on this topic so far, and we

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look forward to working through our committee process to frame questions for future presentations on the subject so we can develop informed consensus advice.

Once again, our thanks to the Tank Integrity Program Team under the leadership of Karthik Subramanian and Dusty Stewart for all of their past and future efforts.

With our sincere thanks,

Steve Wiegman, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board